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SUBJECT: INFORMATION ON TURKISH GOVERNMENT INTERACTION WITH
TERRORIST VICTIMS NGOS

REF: STATE 218921

¶1. There are a number of groups/NGOs in Turkey which support victims of terrorist attacks and their families, specifically victims of PKK (Kurdistan Workers' Party). The two largest organizations, EMSAD and ASAYDD, participated with us at this year's 9/11 commemoration at a local martyrs' monument. Information on these two NGOs follows per reftel.

¶A. EMSAD - Police Martyrs' Families Association. This association, whose members are mostly widows, aims to help family members of policemen killed by terrorists in the line of duty by providing educational contributions to their children. The association has no known international interaction. The chairperson is Nursen Donmez, Fevzi Cakmak 2 Sok. No. 34/6, Kizilay, Ankara. Website: www.emniyetsehitailerleri.org.

¶B. ASAYDD -- Ankara Association for Solidarity with and Assistance to the Families of Martyred Soldiers. Rather than a national single association, there are separate associations in each province. ASAYDD serves as a lobbying group and provides members with moral support. Some provincial governors offer office space to the organization. The group has no known international interaction. Chairperson is Hamit Kose, Necatibey Caddesi Sezenler Sokak 1/13, Sihhiye, Ankara. Website: www.sehitler.org.

¶2. While the Ministry of Interior has an office dealing with such associations, it merely regulates their operations and does not facilitate any contact. We believe it best to approach these organizations directly to facilitate potential ties with U.S. NGOs.

WILSON